

Series: Sermon on the Mount

Lesson: #6

Title: The Pure in Heart

Scripture: Matthew 5: 8

Date: 6-28-2009

Place: Sovereign Grace Baptist Church, Princeton, NJ

Matthew 5: 8: Blessed *are* the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

I. HAPPY ARE THE PURE IN HEART

What is a pure heart? A good way to understand a word in scripture is to find where the word is used beside the opposite of the word.

Titus 1:15: Unto the pure all things *are* pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving *is* nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.

The word "pure" is the opposite of "defiled and unbelieving." "Defiled" means polluted, contaminated, soiled by sin; "Unbelieving" simply means without faith in Christ.

What is a pure heart? A pure heart has been washed of all the defilement of sin and purified through faith in Christ.

How does a sinner get this pure heart?

First, a sinner's heart is washed in regeneration by the Holy Spirit.

Titus 3:5: Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

Also, a sinner's heart is washed, purged by the blood of Christ Jesus.

Ezekiel 36: 24: For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land. 25: Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.

Hebrews 9:14: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Hebrews 10:22: Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

Also, God purifies a sinner's heart through faith in Christ?

Acts 15: 8: And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as *he did* unto us; 9: And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

Those whose hearts have been made pure by the washing of regeneration, purged from dead works to serve the living God, purified by faith, are happy--blessed.

Charles Spurgeon--Foul hearts make dim eyes Godward.

Illustration: Cross your eyes

Matthew 5: 8: Happy are the pure in heart: for they shall see God

II. FOR THEY SHALL SEE GOD.

Notice the connection between the heart and sight. The believer's sight is not with our natural eye but the eye of faith.

Heb 11:1: Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

The pure in heart walk by faith, spiritual sight, not by natural sight. And happy are they because they shall see God.

One, the pure in heart see God in Christ.

John 4:48: Then said Jesus unto him, Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe.

When God purifies our heart by faith--we believe THEN we see signs and wonders because we see God in Christ.

Illustration: Martha and Lazarus: John 11: 40: Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?

Two, we see God in providence.

Romans 8:28: And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.

Three, one day soon, faith and hope will be no more, because those who are pure in heart will see God our Savior Jesus Christ face to face in glory.

I Corinthians 13: 8: Charity never faileth: but whether *there be* prophecies, they shall fail; whether *there be* tongues, they shall cease; whether *there be* knowledge, it shall vanish away. 9: For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. 10: But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. 11: When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. 12: For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. 13: And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these *is* charity.